

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**November 7, 2024**

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The November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Natural Resources Advisory Committee was held as a hybrid event both in-person at 3555 Timmons Lane in Houston, Texas and virtually via Zoom. The meeting began at approximately 1:30 PM.

**NRAC members present (10 voting, 3 advisory\*):**

Andrew Isbell	Katie Wilson	Richard Zahn
Brian Shmaefsky	Latrice Babin	Robert Pechukas
Gabriela Sosa*	Lisa Marshall*	Parul Pillai (for Scott
Jin Ye*	Natasha Zarnstorff	Jeansonne)
Jonathan Holley	(for Bob Stokes)	Tom Douglas

*Phone numbers not connected to a Committee Member weren't counted as present. Apologies for any inconvenience. If you were present via call-in and it isn't marked here, [please let Rachel Windham know](#).*

**NRAC members not present (25 voting, 3 advisory\*):**

Adeel Malik	Claudia Sandoval	Mel Vargas
Ayanna Jolivet Mccloud	Deborah January-Bevers	Mac Martin*
Bill Balboa	Denae King	Phyllis Frank
Brittani Flowers*	Dennis Cote	Scott Saenger
Brian Koch	Ellis Pickett	Shane Porter
Carol Guess	Glenda Callaway	Troy Harrison
Cathy Rogers-McCoy	Kelli Gallagher	Upendra Sahu
Charles "Chuck" Rogers	Kelli Ondracek*	William Hajdik
Christina Moore	Ken Barnadyn	
Christopher Hunniford	Leroy Cerny	

**Current Vacancies:**

Current vacancies include:

- Vice Chair
- Power Generation or Transmission Utility

**H-GAC Staff Present (9):**

H-GAC staff present included Bill Ervin, Cornell Evans, Jr., Erin Livingston, Jenny Oakley, Jessica Casillas, Rachel Windham, Steven Johnston, Todd Running, and Wendy Almanzan.

### **Welcome and Roll Call**

Staff coordinator Rachel Windham welcomed those present for the official start of the meeting and roll was called.

### **Certify Quorum and Approve Meeting Report**

Quorum was not reached during the meeting, so review, comment and acceptance of the the August 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes will be deferred until the next meeting in February.

### **Membership**

Ms. Windham will follow up with the governmental affairs department at H-GAC to coordinate county appointed positions approaching the ends of their terms. Two county appointed positions are currently vacant and will also require coordination with the governmental affairs department to be filled. One NRAC appointed position (Power Generation or Transmission Utility) also remains to be filled. Suggestions for this position can be brought forward by members of the NRAC to Ms. Windham at [rachel.windham@h-gac.com](mailto:rachel.windham@h-gac.com).

Committee member Tom Douglas representing Private Citizens volunteered to serve as Vice Chair. The committee will be asked to approve this appointment at the next meeting in February.

### **Environmental Committee Highlights**

- **Regional Flood Management Committee**  
On behalf of Amanda Ashcroft, Ms. Windham provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Meetings of the Regional Flood Management Committee are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).
- **Solid Waste Management Committee**  
Erin Livingston provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Solid Waste Management Committee meetings are scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).

### **Environmental Program Highlights**

- **Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs)**  
Ms. Windham provided updates on projects including the Clear Creek WPP, East Fork San Jacinto River WPP, and the West Lake Houston WPP

Implementation project which will cover the watershed areas of Cypress Creek, Spring Creek, Lake Creek, and the West Fork of the San Jacinto River. Additionally, H-GAC expects to begin public meetings on a project developing a WPP for Greens Bayou in the early winter.

More information on the Clear Creek WPP can be found on the [project website](#) or by contacting Justin Bower ([justin.bower@h-gac.com](mailto:justin.bower@h-gac.com)) directly. Information on other WPP projects can be found at the East Fork San Jacinto River WPP [project website](#), and Greens Bayou WPP [project website](#), and more information can be provided by Ms. Windham ([rachel.windham@h-gac.com](mailto:rachel.windham@h-gac.com)).

- **Parks & Natural Areas (PNA) Roundtable**

On behalf of Andrea Tantillo, Ms. Windham shared information on activities and updates from the PNA roundtable. For additional information, visit the [PNA website](#).

### **Subcommittees**

- **Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards**

Ms. Windham invited the committee to consider any changes they would like to see regarding the 2025 WISE awards. The 2025 program will be discussed in greater detail at the February 2025 meeting of the NRAC. Ms. Windham also called for committee members to volunteer as or recommend judges for the 2025 program. For additional information on this subcommittee and awards program, visit the [WISE award website](#).

### **Topic of the Day**

Daniel Thorpe, Conservation Associate, and Katie Sierra, Development and Communications Associate, presented an overview of the Coastal Prairie Conservancy and shared information on their priority initiatives.

### **Roundtable Discussion**

Members shared updates about upcoming events.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment was made.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Unless otherwise notified, the next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, February 6, 2025 from 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Windham adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.